

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6. (Canceled)

7. (New) A lip-type seal for sealing an outer periphery of a shaft supported by a housing, said lip-type seal comprising:

an elastic seal ring including an annular fitted part and a lip part, said annular fitted part to be fitted into a hole of the housing, said lip part extending from said fitted part inwardly in a radial direction in the shape of a substantially conical ring that is to be brought into contact with the shaft; and

a support ring including an annular joint part joined to said annular fitted part, and an annular supporting part, said annular supporting part defining a hole through which the shaft is to pass, extending from a side of said annular joint part to a middle region of said lip part, and supporting said lip part, from inwardly of said lip part, in the radial direction,

wherein said lip part is tapered in cross section from an area at which non-contact with said annular supporting part begins toward an end of said lip part, such that a value of $T0/T1$ falls within 0.3 to 0.7, with $T1$ being a thickness of said lip part at the area at which non-contact with said annular supporting part begins, and $T0$ being a thickness of said end of said lip part.

8. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 7, wherein
a value $(D1-D0)/D1$ falls within 0.03 to 0.15, with $D0$ being an inner diameter of said end of said lip part, and $D1$ being an outer diameter of the shaft.

9. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 8, wherein
an end of said annular supporting part is bent away from said lip part so as to define the area at which non-contact with said annular supporting part begins.

10. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 9, wherein said lip part is 85 degrees to 98 degrees in material hardness according to JIS (Duro-A) hardness.

11. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 8, wherein said lip part is 85 degrees to 98 degrees in material hardness according to JIS (Duro-A) hardness.

12. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 11, wherein said annular supporting part is bent away from said lip part at the area at which non-contact with said annular supporting part begins.

13. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 7, wherein an end of said annular supporting part is bent away from said lip part so as to define the area at which non-contact with said annular supporting part begins.

14. (New) The lip-type seal according to claim 7, wherein said lip part is 85 degrees to 98 degrees in material hardness according to JIS (Duro-A) hardness.